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to produce only 50 tons a month. No definite estimate of requirements could be made but it was anticipated that at least 100 tons a month would be consumed.

"(f) Neither the contract with Messrs. Parry & Co. nor that with Karachi Confectionery Manufacturing Works, Madras, now subsists; orders for terminating both the contracts were issued on 31st October 1946."

11-45 a.m. SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—"May I know, Sir, in view of the food scarcity, the question of again supplying toffee bars is under the consideration of the Government?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—"If the food position really becomes very acute, the point may be considered."

Financial assistance to evacuees from Burma and Malaya.

* 53 *Q.*—SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government of India have issued any instructions to the Provincial Government on the continuance of the scheme of financial assistance to evacuees from Burma, Malaya, etc.;

(*b*) whether these instructions affect even those who have become a part of the General Indian population;

(*c*) whether the aged, infirm and unemployable will cease to receive assistance either immediately or after a period of time;

(*d*) whether the Government have under consideration any scheme for the rehabilitation of the aged and the infirm and the care of the blind, crippled and decrepit among the evacuees; and

(*e*) whether the Government of India have undertaken wholly or partly to bear the cost of such schemes of rehabilitation?

THE HON. SRI M. BAKTHAVATSALAM :—"(*a*) Yes. The Government of India propose to wind up their general scheme of financial assistance to evacuees by 29th February 1948. Financial assistance to Indian evacuees from Malaya has already been discontinued with effect from 31st March 1947 except in cases where an evacuee has been accepted for a passage but due to lack of shipping, it has not been found possible to provide him or her with a passage before 31st March 1947. Assistance has also been discontinued to evacuees from Burma, who have not obtained or applied for evacuee identity certificates on or before 28th February 1947. Assistance to evacuees who are aged, infirm and unemployable and have no interest in Burma or the country from which they came by way of property or otherwise will be discontinued by the end of October 1947. In the case of employable evacuees and others who have got some interest in the country from which they evacuated, the Government of India afford certain facilities by way of repayable advances to cover the cost of sea passages, rail-fare and other incidental expenditure.

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Those who fail to take advantage of the facilities as and when they are offered will cease to receive any further assistance under the scheme.

" (b) Yes. The Government of India consider that evacuees from Burma who have not obtained or applied for evacuee identity certificates on or before 28th February 1947 should be deemed to be a part of the general Indian population not interested in returning to Burma immediately for a living and have ordered the discontinuance of assistance to them. Similarly, evacuees who are aged, infirm and unemployable and have no interest in the country from which they came have also been regarded as forming part of the general population and in their case assistance will be stopped after giving them six months' notice.

" (c) The aged, infirm and unemployable evacuees will cease to receive assistance after six months' notice from about the middle of April 1947.

" (d) & (e) In regard to evacuees who are aged, infirm and unemployable to whom assistance will be discontinued after six months' notice, the Government of India have stated that, if this Government could institute any scheme for their rehabilitation by way of fitting them to engage themselves in cottage industries or the like, they would be willing to consider the question of an initial contribution towards the institution of such a scheme. With regard to the blind, crippled and decrepit among these evacuees, the Government of India have indicated that, if any charitable institution is prepared to look after them, the question of granting a lump sum contribution from the Indians Overseas Evacuation Relief Fund will also be considered.

" The matter is under the consideration of the Government."

SRI S. B. ADITYAN :—" May I know, Sir, whether the vast majority of these evacuees from Burma and Malaya belong to this Province? "

THE HON. SRI M. BAKTHAVATSALAM :—" Perhaps so, Sir."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" May I know from the Hon. Minister if this Government would press upon the Central Government the desirability of increasing these allowances to the orphan children, the aged and the infirm? "

THE HON. SRI M. BAKTHAVATSALAM :—" This Government have expressed their view to the Central Government in the matter and this Government will certainly consider what they should do in co-ordination with the Government of India for the relief of those people."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" May I know whether the Hon. Minister has any idea of the number of the aged and the infirm? "

THE HON. SRI M. BAKTHAVATSALAM :—" No, Sir."

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SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" Will the Government kindly arrange to collect statistics so that they may make out a case to the Government of India for the rehabilitation scheme? "

THE HON. SRI M. BAKTHAVATSALAM :—" I do not know whether it will be possible. Anyhow, I shall look into it."

Accidents on the Vandalur-Padappai Road.

* 54 Q.—ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR: Will the Hon'ble the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that a number of accidents have been taking place on the Vandalur-Padappai road, on the banks of the Vandalur lake about 22 miles from Madras;

(*b*) whether it is a fact that accidents have been taking place on account of the narrowness of the path on the banks of the Vandalur lake through which the buses and other conveyances pass; and

(*c*) whether the Government propose to direct the widening of the path and the fixing of railings on both sides of the banks of the said lake?

THE HON. SRI M. BAKTHAVATSALAM :—" (*a*) The District Magistrate, Chingleput, reported in April 1947 that there have been no accidents on the banks of Vandalur lake in 1945, 1946 and in 1947 up to the date of his report made in April 1947.

" (*b*) Does not arise in view of answer to clause (*a*).

" (*c*) There are no proposals for widening the path and for fixing railings on both sides of the road either in the post-war road programme or outside it. The Chief Engineer has however issued instructions to the officers concerned to examine the necessity for such a work and have asked them to include it in the post-war road programme if there is a case for it."

Rules governing travelling allowance of Hon. Speaker and Hon. President.

* 55 Q.—SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO: Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(*a*) what the rules governing travelling allowances of the Hon. Speaker and the Hon. President are;

(*b*) whether in the discharge of their public duties they were entitled to tour and draw travelling allowances as in the case of the Hon. Ministers;

(*c*) whether any changes have been introduced virtually barring the Hon. Speaker and the Hon. President from undertaking any tours; and

(*d*) whether the Government will be pleased to place on the table of the House copies of Government Orders relating to the travelling allowances of the Hon. Speaker and the Hon. President?